

Beckett Rules Favorite, but British Experts Fear Carpenter, ables Charles F. Mathison to "The Sun"

BECKETT FAVORITE, BUT EXPERTS HEDGE

Undercurrent of Belief Carpenter Will Go Round and Out-point the Briton.

TRAINS ON CIGARETTES

Frenchman, Puffing Contentedly, Says He Finds Weed Soothing and Quieting.

By CHARLES F. MATHISON.

Special Cable Dispatch to The Sun.

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London, Dec. 2.—While Joe Beckett, British champion, is a slight favorite over Georges Carpentier, European heavyweight title holder, for their twenty round contest in the Holborn Stadium today night, there is a strong undercurrent of belief among the experts that the Frenchman will win on points. This is due to the fact that Carpentier emerged from his training tasks in apparently good condition. It is conceded that if the Frenchman's vitality is sufficient to carry him over the route he will outbox the Briton.

Although there is very little betting yet, wagers up to date make Beckett a two to three favorite. The brilliant performance of Beckett against McGoorty advanced the odds on the Briton. While Carpentier's record by no means is impressive it is known he can box scientifically and it is believed he can keep Beckett at bay for twenty rounds and win on points.

Boxing authorities here are of the belief neither man is of first rank and seem to think the winner will, if he beats Dempsey, quickly be eliminated.

Both men finished their hard training to-day. Beckett, who is noted for industry, is certain to enter the ring in top condition for a hard battle.

Experts Get Jolt.

While Carpentier outwardly is fit he gave a hard jolt to those who hold opinions as to orthodox methods of training. The Frenchman went to Holborn Stadium, had all lights turned on, then, under conditions that will prevail during the title contest, he boxed with his sparring partners. After resuming his street clothes he calmly lit a cigarette and smoked away contentedly.

Asked if he thought that cigarette smoking was an effective aid in training he replied he did not experience any bad effects, and he smoked and smoked and declared he never had smoked cigarette during training.

Promoter C. B. Cochran yesterday received word from the Prince of Wales that he would assume the title of champion of the world in the event, B. J. Ango, famous old time referee, will decide the points.

Cochran says he will call for New York on December 14 to meet Jack Dempsey and arrange to have the world's champion meet the winner of the twenty round fight. Cochran said he had promised Dempsey to fight here in Olympia.

Beckett, who did his training at Southampton, announced to-day that he would stop Carpentier for the time being and prepare to beat Dempsey. Carpentier doesn't claim victory, but says he will give a good account of himself.

Hazdendine, the former cruiser, retired wrestling champion, is here and says the chief interest will be in a clever boxer trying to baffle a strong, rugged puncher.

Look for Interesting Bout.

"Carpenter is of the slender, willowy Kid McCoy type of boxer," says Haken Schmidt. "Beckett is of the Tom Sharkey type, strong, rugged and powerful. It will be a question of the fall, full thrust of the Frenchman flashing through the heavier broadsword slashes of the stalwart Briton. Such matches always turn out to be interesting and those who throng the Holborn Stadium are certain of seeing a thrilling contest, regardless of the outcome."

Though as a rule boxers prove mighty in the ring, the American and the Frenchman will be interested to hear what a man who has faced both Carpentier and Beckett in the ring thinks of the bout. Dick Smith, the former cruiser, weight champion of England, was stopped by Carpentier in eight rounds. Smith is credited with a victory over Beckett.

Regarding to-morrow's big static tilt Smith says:

"Carpenter has one punch—an uppercut, but I don't think it is anything anyone should be scared about. I tested it several times and it failed to bother me. I have met many boxers who told me a deal harder than Carpenter. I honestly believe that if he had not fouled me twice he struck me twice before the belt in the seventh round—I would have beaten him."

"Carpenter has showed considerably in his footwork but still is able to land his hands. He is a remarkably fast puncher. Up to the time he knocked me out his punches didn't seem to carry any great force."

"I believe Beckett will stand up to him for twenty rounds. At the same time I think Carpenter will stay the limit and get the decision. His boxing ability should win for him."

An Even Money Bet.

"However, it is an even money bet, in my mind, as to who will win. Beckett has the strength and punch to knock out the Frenchman. Whether he will be given the opening, or whether he can cater down the Frenchman's defenses and make the opening, remains to be seen."

"Beckett is a dangerous man. I say that despite the fact that I lost him once and am confident I can do it again. Any man packing the heavy punch Beckett possesses is a dangerous man to be against. Beckett is not a man to waver to many guinea on. He has been knocked out before and can be knocked out again. I nearly bagged him twice with a one-two punch, myself."

RODGERS REFUSES FABULOUS OFFERS

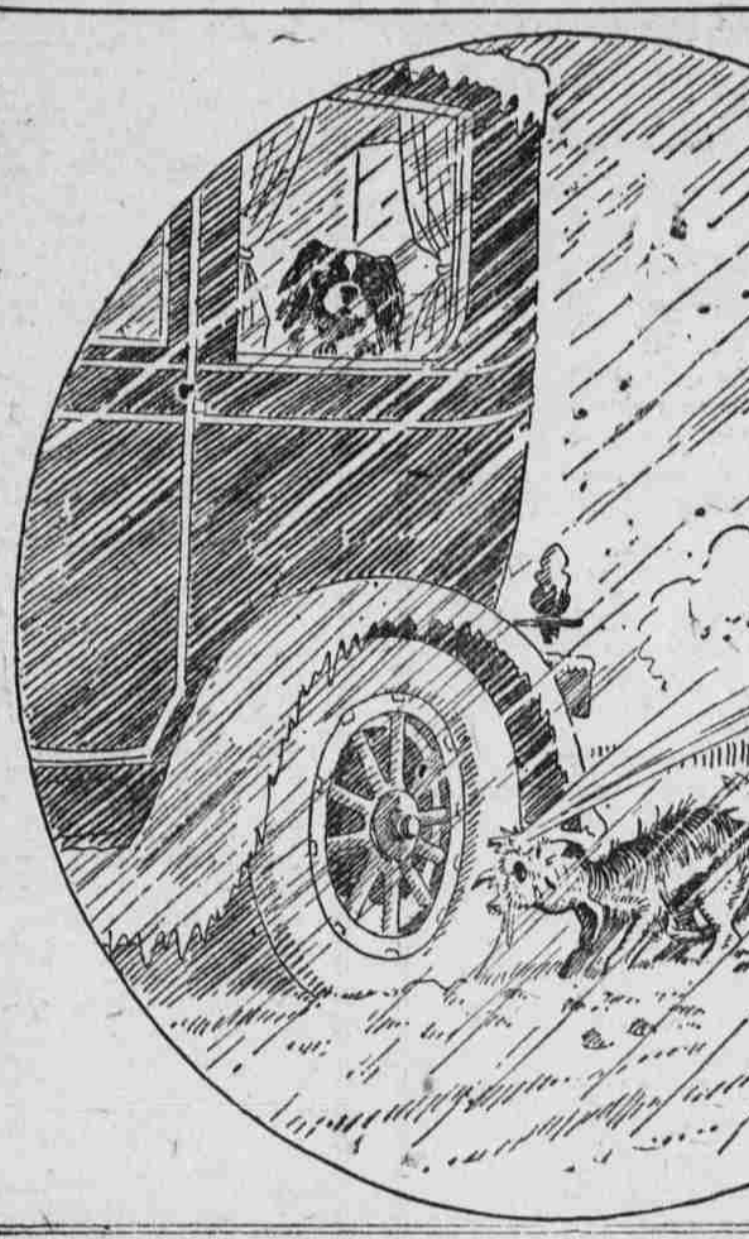
West Virginia Captain Will Not Play Pro Football.

Special Dispatch to The Sun.

MORGANTHAU, W. Va., Dec. 2.—Capt. Ira E. Rodgers, West Virginia's star fullback, considered a sure all American selection, will not play professional football, although he is through at a college athlete. He has received fabulous offers from the Ohio professional eleven.

The team were offered by Rodgers a star baseball player, too, and has been under contract by the Phillies, New York Giants and Cincinnati, but will not accept any of these, as he is majoring in chemistry and when he finishes here has flattering opportunities in his chosen work.

THE BOLSHEVIST



LEYS NAMED LEADER OF COLUMBIA CREW

New Captain Is Holder of Croix de Guerre—Election Is Popular on Heights.

Duncan Leys, recipient of the Croix de Guerre, who stroked the Columbia varsity eight at Poughkeepsie in 1915, was elected captain of the Morningside Heights crew yesterday to take the place left vacant by the resignation on Monday of Bob O'Loughlin. Leys's choice as captain was unanimous.

Entering Columbia in the fall of 1914, Leys stroked the freshman crew at Poughkeepsie in the spring of 1915 and in 1916 was promoted to the same position in the varsity eight. He was stroked out of the 1917 varsity when the United States entered the war. He sought admission to the training camp at Plattsburg, but was rejected, and immediately enlisted in a French ambulance unit. He sailed for France early in the summer and served at the front for a year and a half, winning the Croix de Guerre for exceptional bravery. He returned to Columbia with the opening of the fall term.

Jim Rice was highly pleased with Leys's election and celebrated the event by placing the "Pollywog" in commission in the tank, where he gave both varsity and freshman crew candidates individual instruction in blade work.

PETE HERMAN IS OUTPOINTED.

Charles Beecher Announces Bantam Champion in Eight Round Bout.

Pete Herman, the bantamweight champion, ran into a bomb shell at the Rayon Athletic Club, Bayonne, N. J., last night when he encountered Charles Beecher, the New York bantamweight, in an eight round bout. The champion stepped into a rain of blows at the very start. Beecher harassed him throughout the match by a rapid attack and easily was the winner on points.

Both men came out of the fight in good condition. Toward the end of the fight Herman showed more stamina than his rival. George Mason of England defeated Willie Burns of New York in a preliminary match.

BEZDEK MUST CHOOSE.

Is Asked to Quit Penn State or Give Up Membership of Pirates.

Special Dispatch to The Sun.

PITTSBURGH, Dec. 2.—Hugo Bezdek, who piloted the Pirates for the last two seasons, can have his job again the coming season if he so desires, but he will have to sever his connections with the Penn State College. While he was in the city last week Bezdek and President Barney Dreyfus conferred on the management of the Pirates for next season. Bezdek has not made up his mind as to what he will do, and as a matter of fact his wife will be an important factor in reaching a decision.

CAMP TO SPEAK AT FOOTBALL MEETING

C. C. N. Y. to Launch Grid-Iron Campaign To-day.

Football fans at the College of the City of New York are looking forward with interest to the mass meeting to-morrow at noon in the great hall. Walter Camp, Jim Garahan of N. Y. U. and Tom Thorpe have been invited to speak. Prof. William B. Guthrie, Lewis Sayre Burdard, T. J. Walter Williamson, athletic director, and Coaches Lionel B. Mackenzie and Ned Holman also are expected to make brief addresses.

This will be the first of a series of campaigns to be held in the city. The spirit of the students even higher than it is at present in order to insure the success of the drive which will be held the week of January 4.

Cliff Tiger, chairman of the executive committee yesterday addressed a meeting of representatives of classes, activities and fraternities, at which he gave some of the plans which will be used to put the fund across. Prof. Guthrie, who is chairman of the business committee, in a brief address, expressed the belief that the fund would be over subscribed.

COSGROVE IS CUE LEADER.

Joseph Cosgrove was crowned the three-day, brilliant champion of the district last night in Doyle's room, where he defeated Herbert McKenna, 25 to 18, in the final game of the tourney.

The winner left word to George Barton, who he disposed of Matthew Lewis, 25 to 8, in the final contest of that tournament.

Babe Ruth to Seek Jack Dempsey's Crown

LOS ANGELES, Dec. 2.—It was announced to-day that Babe Ruth, home run record holder, may become a professional boxer.

McGoorty, a former pugilist, and Al St. John, a motion picture actor, to-day entered into an agreement by which McGoorty will train Ruth for thirty days and if his report was favorable St. John would finance a campaign of the outfielder to obtain a match with Jack Dempsey, heavyweight champion.

Ruth has given up plans to become a professional baseball player. The home run champion said he used to be in preliminary boxing contests in Baltimore when he was a mere boy.

"I have any future I might have had in that game to play baseball," said McGoorty. "I am willing to do everything they ask."

CASSIDY WINS IN COPENHAGEN BOUT

Donze Suffers First Defeat in Scandinavian Tour.

Frank Cassidy of the Oxnard Association of this city, national 135 pound amateur boxing champion, registered his first victory in the international boxing tournament in the Sparta Club of Copenhagen, according to a cablegram received at the local Amateur Athletic Union headquarters yesterday.

After losing decisions twice in his other bouts, Cassidy finally handed Johannes and Hansen, two Swedish representatives, a fine lesson. In both of these bouts, according to the cablegram, Cassidy had his opponent in a bad way. Cassidy was victorious in a bad way. Cassidy was victorious in a bad way.

Another Postponement.

The Leonard-Cogan bout once again has been postponed. Originally set for last Monday, it was postponed until Friday because of the weather. Cassidy was victorious in a bad way. Cassidy was victorious in a bad way.

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COMISKEY COULD FIND NO CONTRACT

Says Ban Johnson Has No 20 Year Agreement With the American League.

By FREDERICK G. LEB.

Charles Comiskey, owner of the Chicago White Sox, yesterday reported to the majority directors of the American League that his researches in the Chicago office of the American League, failed to disclose any evidence supporting the claim of Johnson that he has a twenty year contract to serve as president of the league at a salary of \$15,000.

Comiskey makes no bones of the matter. He states positively that he does not believe any such contract is in existence. In a statement issued at the close of the directors' meeting at the Hotel Baltimore the following paragraph is included:

"Mr. Comiskey reported that owing to Mr. Johnson's illness it had not been possible to secure the papers in his custody relating to his contractual relation to the league. Mr. Comiskey expressed the opinion that no contract of that nature existed."

The special meeting of the American League's board of directors was attended by the usual quartet—Cox, Ruppert and Johnson of New York, Charles Comiskey of Chicago and Harry Frazee of Boston and their attorneys. As in former meetings, Comiskey was made chairman of the session and Frazee secretary.

Johnson, who is ill, was not present. Ban Johnson and Jim Dunn of Cleveland, the minority directors, were absent.

To Change Date for Hearing.

While the meeting of the directors was in session they were called on the telephone by Johnson's New York attorney, who asked whether the New York club would agree to moving back the hearing in the latest injunction proceeding against Johnson from Monday, December 8, to to-morrow, December 4. The New York club consented to this request with no little sense of satisfaction. Justice Greenbaum will hold the hearing to-morrow morning.

The hearing to-morrow morning will be satisfactory to him. It was at the instance of Johnson's lawyer, Stephen Baldwin, that the hearing was postponed until next Monday.

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